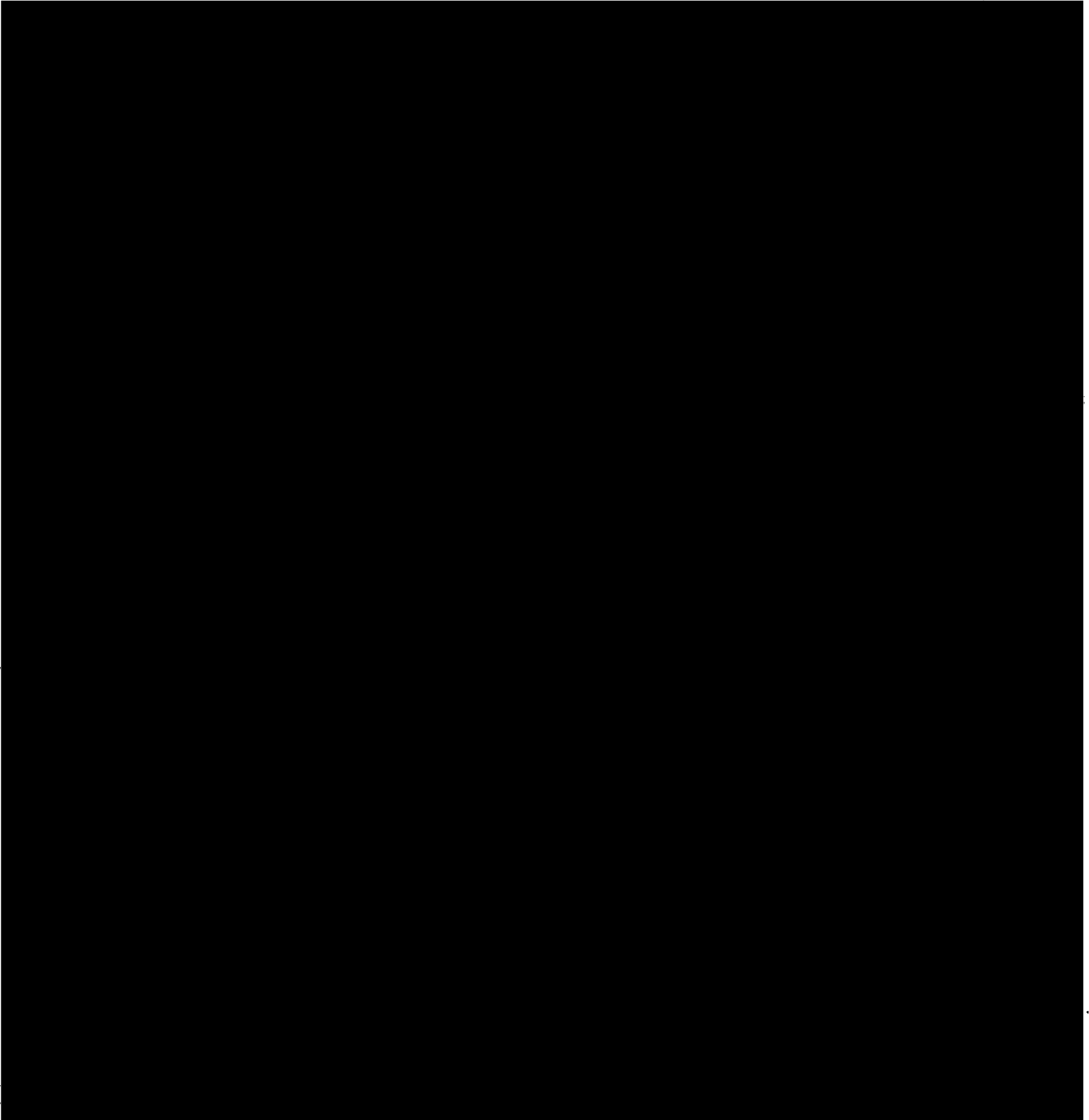


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March 1961

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GROUP 1
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Japan: STATISTICAL SUMMARY^{1/}

	1959	1960	1961	1962
<u>Exchange Rate (yen per \$)</u>				
Official	360	360	360	360(Aug)
<u>Gold & Foreign Exch. Reserves</u>	1,322	(millions of \$) 1,824	1,485	1,635(July)
<u>Balance of Payments(trans.basis)</u>				Jan-June 1961 1962
Exports	3,280	3,874	3,992	1,875 2,210
Imports	3,007	3,727	4,924	2,396 2,369
Balance	273	147	-932	-521 -159
Invisibles	79 ^{3/}	-66	-185	-98 -123
(Special \$ Receipts) ^{4/}	(471)	(542)	(445)	(241) (180)
Current Account	352	81	-1,117	-619 -282
Transfer Payments	3/	30	32	10 23
Capital	109	411	773	691 468
Balance	461	522	-312	82 209
Errors & Omissions	-	-20	-27	6 -73
<u>Money Supply</u>		(billions of yen)		
Currency	923	1,097	1,319	1,209(Mar)
Deposits	2,788	3,323	3,939	3,701 "
Total	3,711	4,420	5,258	4,910 "
<u>Government Finance</u>				Jan-May
Revenues	1,871	2,415	3,057	1,381
Expenditures	1,932	2,361	2,997	1,143
Balance	-61	54	60	238
<u>Claims</u>				
On Public Sector	1,224	1,326	1,275	1,421(Mar)
On Private Sector	10,287	12,868	16,377	16,845 "
<u>G.N.P.(in real terms)</u>	33.3	38.7	46.4(annual est.)	
<u>Discount Rate (%)</u>	7.30	6.94	7.30	7.30(Aug)
<u>Cost of Living(1958=100)^{2/}</u>	101	105	111	120(July)
<u>Industrial Production(1955=100)^{2/}</u> (seasonally adjusted)	202	244	294	301(May)

^{1/}Unless otherwise indicated data are for end of period.

^{2/}Average for period.

^{3/}Transfer payments are included in invisibles for 1959.

^{4/}Includes AID-financed exports.

Men in the News

Kiichiro Sato

Chairman of Special Research Council on Administrative Reform

"So long as we use the same old approach as has been adopted by similar committees in the past, there will be no improvement in the nation's administrative setup," is the first remark of Kiichiro Sato who has just been nominated chairman of the Special Research Council on Administrative Reform.

So, he thinks that his committee must be as authoritative and competent as the Hoover Commission of the United States.



Sato

Shojiro Kawashima, director of the Administrative Management Agency, is said to have been thoroughly charmed by Sato who shows himself a rationalist to the core.

Before Kawashima formed this impression, he had not met Sato more than a few times with the mission to select members for the new council.

After graduating from Tokyo University as an English law major in 1917, Sato joined the Mitsui Bank, Ltd. and worked for 28 years overseas before assuming the presidency of the Teikoku Bank which was vacated by Junshiro Pandai under the postwar purge directive.

After the bank was split into the Daiichi Bank and the Mitsui Bank in 1953, Sato remained president of the Mitsui Bank. He then became chairman of the board of directors of the same bank in December, 1959 and ever since has been wielding the scepter over the whole Mitsui financial and industrial combine.

As such, he not only represents his bank but also is recognized publicly as one of Japan's most elderly bankers on the active list.

One proof of this public recognition is found in the fact that Sato's name was mentioned as a possible candidate for the post of Finance Minister for former Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi's Cabinet.

On the council in which he holds the chair, there are some ready critics of a different color and background rarely found in any similar Government advisory body, such as Kaoru Ohta, chairman of the General Council of Japan Trade Unions (Sohyo), former prosecutor general Tadashi Hanai and Yusai Takahashi, president of the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association.

And Sato readily admits that all these persons have their own views and ideas of what the projected administrative reform should be and that no consensus is readily forthcoming.

Nevertheless, he appears to be burning with the ambition to accomplish this formidable task.

A native of Yokohama, Sato, 67, plays golf and is fond of the game of go.